

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A screen saver is provided for an apparatus having a display screen, a storage medium, a computer application stored in the storage medium, and a screen saver program stored in the storage medium. The application has a handle that executes the application in a screen saver mode when it is selected. The handle is contained in a carousel, which includes a database containing the handles. The database also includes rules for selecting the handles and parameters associated with each handle. When a timeout period of inactivity is exceeded on the apparatus, the screen saver program is executed. The screen saver program selects the application handle from the carousel, which executes the application in the screen saver mode. While operating in the screen saver mode, the application creates images that are shown on the display screen.